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22 August 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Reporting on CIA's Liaison Relationships to the
House Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence

X1 1. ☐ On 18 August 1978 the undersigned met with Thomas K. Latimer, Staff Director, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Michael J. O'Neil, Chief Counsel, and Loch K. Johnson, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Oversight, to discuss possible ground rules for the Agency's reporting on its relationships with liaison services. The Committee staffers provided me with a copy of the November 9, 1977 letter (attached) from Chairman Edward P. Boland (D., Mass.) to the Director of Central Intelligence. The pertinent paragraph is the second one in which the Committee requests "detailed summaries of all intelligence agreements."

X1 2. ☐ The basic point made to the Committee staffers is that this Agency regards our liaison relationships as both a source and a method and, therefore, as items that would not normally be responded to in detail to oversight committees. It was further suggested that the Committee really has no need to know the identity of the service or indeed even the country of the service in order to adequately perform its oversight function. While Mr. Johnson and Mr. O'Neil conceded that they do not need the precise identities or even countries of the various services, Mr. Latimer pointed out that certain Committee Members might well insist on knowing the identity of the individual services. What the Committee is now requesting is that we provide the following:

5X1 a. List those services which have already been included as line items in budget presentations and/or reported on in considerable detail to the Committee. ☐

b. Provide overview of our relationships with the other services. Included in this overview would be the total cost of our liaison relationships, our assessment of the value of those relationships in terms of intelligence produced as well as operational information gained as a result of those relationships.

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